

Engineering Heritage Australia Bulletin: #37

13 February 2024

In this issue:

- Map of EHRP Marker Locations
- The development of Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1924 – Upcoming EHS event.
- Making It Here – A New Book by David Radcliffe
- Australian Army Museum of Military Engineering (AAMME) First Bulletin for 2024
- White Bay Power Station Tours
- Accessing the EHA Bulletin

Map of EHRP Marker Locations

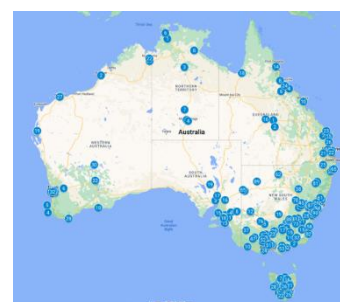
In addition to stories of our engineering heritage as published in *Wonders Never Cease*, we like to see, touch and feel our heritage. To meet this need, EHA developed the Engineering Heritage Recognition Program (EHRP). Since beginning with Historic Engineering Markers in 1984, there are now 255 items that have been recognized around Australia.



Early sites were marked with a bronze plaque, but since 2012 EHRP has facilitated the installation of markers and interpretation panels. From about this time, information on EHRP items was also made available on the Engineers Australia website.

The information that was on the EA website has now been audited, updated and transferred to a new EHA website at https://heritage.engineersaustralia.org.au/wiki/Main_Page. Each of the 255 items has its own webpage from which users can view/download the nomination document and other information.

With the new EHA website, it has also been possible to provide an EHRP Map showing the location of 268 markers (some items have more than one marker) around Australia. For each location, its name, a short description and the option of accessing Google Directions with the user choosing their starting point has also been provided. The EHRP Map can also be accessed from a mobile phone.



Whether you are planning a day trip or joining the grey nomads travelling around Australia, you can now see what EHRP items are near you and how to get there. When you get there, if you can improve our location information or provide better images for the website, please

send this information to the EHRP Committee contact Gregg Klopp at Gregg.Klopp@robertbird.com.au.

(By Mike Taylor – EHWA, EHA)

The development of Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1924 – Upcoming EHS event

Refer to the link below for the upcoming EHS event about the development of Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1924.

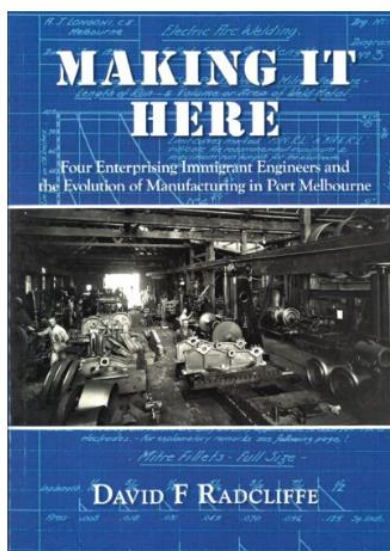
<https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/event/2022/05/development-sydney-harbour-bridge-1924-1528fccb>

In 1924 work on the Sydney Harbour Bridge had begun. Tenders had been received, a contract awarded, detailed design work was underway in London and steel was being rolled in Middlesbrough. In Sydney the site was being cleared and the erection of the steel fabrication workshop was beginning. This presentation follows the developments of the year and showcases the engineers involved. The arch was still four years away, but important decisions were being made. Concurrently work on the underground City Railway was racing ahead, at least by the tunnelling standards of the day.

(By Bill Phippen - EHS)

***Making It Here* – A New Book by David Radcliffe**

Making It Here is a new book authored by David Radcliffe on the origins of manufacturing in Port Melbourne.



Making it Here centres on the lives of four mechanical engineers, Otto Schumacher, Alfred Harman, Albert Longoni, and Fred David. Each contributed significantly to the development of manufacturing in Port Melbourne, including Fishermans Bend, during the first half of the 20th century. They grew up and learned their craft in America, Britain and Europe before achieving success in Australia. Two founded manufacturing businesses; the other two took existing firms in critical new directions.

For more information and to order a copy of the book, please refer to the link below:

<https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/product/making-it-here-by-david-f-radcliffe/>

(From David Radcliffe - EHV)

Australian Army Museum of Military Engineering (AAMME) First Bulletin for 2024

Find attached to this bulletin, the January edition of the AAMME Bulletin for 2024.

(From Bill Phippen- EHS)

White Bay Power Station Tours

The White Bay Power Station is a notable landmark in Sydney's engineering heritage. As part of the 2024 Biennale of Sydney, tours have been developed by MHNSW. The Power Station is described as:

Discover the stories behind this extraordinary heritage-listed landmark, the only one of its kind to survive on Sydney Harbour. Built between 1912 and 1917 to cope with the expansion of Sydney's electric tram and rail systems, White Bay fed the largest metropolitan tramway network in the Southern Hemisphere and provided power to the trains as well as to the suburban electricity grid. The building's dominant harbourside position, dramatic vertical facade, castellated parapets and steam funnels mark the entrance to the Balmain waterfront, and are an enduring symbol of the area's industrial origins and traditions.

The tour will include never-before-seen areas of White Bay Power Station, including the vast and cathedral-like Boiler House and Turbine Hall, as well as some hidden spaces not open to the public. In addition, you will be able to see remarkably intact equipment and machinery and learn about the last remaining example of a coal-fired harbourside industrial complex in NSW.

The tours are on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 9 March – 9 June 2024, at 12 pm and 1.20 pm – and are free. They can be booked online at:

<https://www.biennaleofsydney.art/events/white-bay-heritage-tour/>

(From Rachel Sutcliffe – EHS)

Accessing the EHA Bulletin

When a copy of the EHA bulletin is published, in addition to its being circulated via State email lists, a copy is loaded to EA Xchange at:

<https://eaxchange.engineersaustralia.org.au/home>

and to the EHA website at:

https://heritage.engineersaustralia.org.au/wiki/EHA_Bulletin.

The advantage of EA Xchange is that if you 'Create an account' at <https://portal.engineersaustralia.org.au/profile/create> and join the Engineering Heritage Australia community, you will get an email message that a new Bulletin is available to read online or download. You do not have to be a member of Engineers Australia to have an account with EA Xchange. If you are a member of Engineers Australia, use your existing log in detail to access EA Xchange and join the Engineering Heritage Australia community. The EHA Community currently has 43 members, we would like more.

The advantage of the EHA website at https://heritage.engineersaustralia.org.au/wiki/EH_News_Home is that this webpage not only provides access to the latest edition, but access to all past editions of the Bulletin which commenced in July 2021. In addition to the Bulletin, the 30 editions of the Magazine published between 2013 and 2023 and the 26 editions of the Newsletter published between 1992 and 2012 are also available online.

(By Mike Taylor – EHWA, EHA)

Contributions needed

Readers are invited to share news, bright ideas, issues of concern, advice about online talks – anything that would be of interest and helpful to others, by sending them to editor Firas Shawash at fshawash@yahoo.com for inclusion in the next Bulletin - more Australia-wide content would be appreciated.

This Engineering Heritage Australia Bulletin is published by Engineers Australia's National Committee for Engineering Heritage. Statements made or opinions expressed in the Bulletin are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Engineers Australia.

AAMME

Australian Army Museum of Military Engineering

BULLETIN 01/2024

Introduction

This bulletin provides an update, at irregular intervals, on the AAMME operations between 13 Dec 2023 – 19 Jan 2024.

Mission

Promote the collection of significant material of RAE Corps History and Heritage (H2), and implement best practice in the management, preservation, and display of that H2 IOT educate Sappers, and contribute towards esprit de corps, future doctrine and materiel development. Also, enhance broader awareness of the RAE Corps achievements.

Theme

- Bridging the Gap
- RAE Corps Band.

Recent Worthy Achievements

Pictures of the tremendous effort by the AAMME staff, along with SME WAB Cell & HOLDFAST Tp, to relocate much larger eqpt late Dec 2023, incl the building of a single story, five bay MGB, is now on SME FB site.

Our historic VHS Audio cassettes of the Stanley Watson interview at SME is now digitised.

New downlights now enhance the RAE Corps Band display cabinet.

The AAMME 5 yr Strategic Plan is already being amended to better reflect the much earlier than expected achievements of 2023. Plan will now read 2024 - 2029.

The AAMME brochure is now available in simplified Chinese.

Volunteering

If you're interested, or know someone interested, in joining us as a volunteer, please email SGT Gregory Black via our mailbox.

MGB Completed



Visitors

Many MIL and CIV personnel, incl families and friends, continue to visit the AAMME, some regularly, including:

- CO & ADJT SME.
- SME staff & students.
- MIL pers HOLSBKS.
- CIV contractors.
- CIV incl Families.
- RAN/Army/RAAF Cadets.

Training/Courses

Groups continue to utilise the facilities within the AAMME incl:

- SME and SOER EDD.
- SME ROBC & IETs.
- AAMME Staff & Vols FPA trg.

The RAE Corps Shop

The RAE Corps shop is located within SME, HOLSBKS, and trades on Tue 1200 - 1300h, Pay Thu 1200 - 1300h, off-Pay Thu 1500 - 1600h.

corpsshop@gmail.com

Relocating Bukoo Boom Boom



Curator

The first themed display of 2024 complete - Bridging the Gap.

Feedback on the AAMME Bulletin, and related [SME] Facebook and ForceNet posts, have been most encouraging, and very much appreciated; as are your contributions towards the RAE Corps History & Heritage. We look fwd to your continued support throughout 2024(+).

Bridging the Gap



Plan for the next quarter

Relocate MV10, and prep area for LRSS IHSV.

AAMME staff visit to the Repository, Bandiana NLT Apr.

Establish a kid's activity area.

Continue to work with 20 EOD SQN on an OP RENDER SAFE display.

Organise a visit to gather material that captures 6 ESR AACAP operations with a view to establishing a more permanent display inside the AAMME.

Review the AAMME Collection, Disaster, and Succession Plans.

Promote further the continuing successes and achievements of the AAMME/AAHU.

Seek to secure a MK3 (sandy coloured) Husky.

See more AAMME pictures on the SME Facebook site.

aamme.mailbox@defence.gov.au

By Museum Manager: MAJ Robert Wallace (robert.wallace2@defence.gov.au) – 19 Jan 2024